



Appl. No. 09/974,511
Amdt dated: August 5, 2003
Reply to Office Action of March 6, 2003

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial No. : 09/974,511

Applicant(s) : Masahiro KAWAKAMI et al.

Filed : October 10, 2001

For : SMELTING REDUCTION METHOD

Art Unit : 1742

Examiner : Melvyn J. Andrews

Docket No. : 00447CD/HG

Confirmation
No. : 8922

Customer No.: 01933

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Laraine Dobies

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

S I R :

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Responsive to the Office Action mailed March 6, 2003 (Paper No. 9), the term for response to which is extended two months by a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME filed concomitantly herewith to expire on August 6, 2003, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.